

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on
Thursday May 3rd 2012 in Hermitage Village Hall.

Present.

Ms R. Cottingham	Chairman.
Mr G. Pask.	District Councillor
Mr Q. Webb	District Councillor.

Forty seven members of the public.

1 Apologies for absence.

There was an apology for absence from Lt Col Sherrington.

2 Minutes of the last Annual Parish Assembly held on April 21st 2011.

There was a proposition from the floor that the minutes be taken as read. This proposition was put to the vote and carried. The minutes were signed as correct by the Chairman.

3 The reports from the Parish Council by the Chairman and the RFO.

The reports are attached.

4 The report from the West Berkshire Councillor.

The report is attached. Questions were then invited.

Forest Edge development is going ahead – is WBC expanding the School.

It depends on how the balance is between the Senior and Junior Schools.

Does the plan to build 20,000 houses in West Berkshire by 2026 still stand.

The strategy has all been changed by the Local Plan and the Public Examination as to the soundness of the Plan takes place later this month.

The S.106 funds for the Forest Edge expansion includes £220k for Education.

The way that monies are allocated through the system has changed and this may no longer apply.

Have residents been contacted.

WBC has advertised the process and it is on the WBC website.

If the Hermitage residents don't want new houses why should the Forest Edge development go ahead.

The decision rests purely on underlying planning policies, remembering that the site was originally given consent as an industrial development. There were applicants for industrial development units.

In the future we will need land for development to provide employment.

WBC can only deal with applications as they are presented.

There are a number of children from outside the area who attend Hermitage Schools.

If children live in the catchment area they are entitled to do so.

5 The Military Base.

The Chairman welcomed the Quartermaster from the Base.

There is a concept to refurbish the play park, so that children from all over the area could play together. The funding would come from WBC and the MOD. There should be formal agreement to the WBC funding at the end of the month.

The future of the base is more difficult to forecast.

In 2014 one Regiment will move, but the Royal School of Military Survey is due to stay. The School welcomes many students from all parts of the Armed Forces.

There should be some small areas of the base which may become available for Community use.

There will be no closure before 2017.

Questions were invited.

How long will the Government project last.

There is every possibility of a long term possibility. Any child from Hermitage can use the play park.

6 Presentations.

Mr Gilchrist presented a slide show and talked about the flora and fauna of the Hermitage area. A report is attached.

Mr Marr presented a slide show which represented Hermitage past and present, and discussed many aspects of the more unusual slides.

7 Reports from Village Organisations.

Holy Trinity Church.

Hermitage School.

Hermitage Pre-school.

Hermitage Scouts and cubs.

Football Club.

Hermitage Village Hall.

Hermitage Horticultural Society.

All the Organisations had provided printed reports which are attached.

8 Grants to Organisations.

The following Organisations were presented with cheques for grants.

Holy Trinity Church.

Hermitage Pre-School.

Hermitage Scouts.

Hermitage Village Hall.

Hermitage Horticultural Society.

9 Open Forum.

There were no comments or questions from the floor.

10 Any Other business.

There was a request for a dog bin installation and to take away a litter bin which, it was suggested, might be placed by the Village Hall.

The Council would look at the suggestion.

11 Closure of the Assembly.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, questions and participation and closed the Assembly at 21.56hrs.


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Chairman

14.05.13
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Date